

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated August 17, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Applicant notes that the Examiner has not acknowledged the IDS filed in this case on August 8, 2005. The IDS was filed in co-pending application 10/184,096 along with a petition to enter that IDS in this case. Applicant respectfully requests the entry and consideration of those references. A copy of the petition and IDS are enclosed with this response.

Claims 1-14 and 16-19 are hereby amended; claim 15 is hereby canceled; and claims 21-24 are hereby added. Accordingly, claims 1-14 and 16-24 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required a new title. Applicants hereby amend the title as set forth on Page 2 of this Amendment.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2-6 and 9-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0025867 to Yoshizoe (hereinafter "Yoshizoe"). Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshizoe.

The rejection of claims 1-14 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1-14 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "wherein a connection part between the start pattern and the main pattern and a connection part between the main pattern and the end pattern cross each other, such that the liquid crystal is uniformly filled between the first and second substrates and the liquid crystal substantially does not come into contact with the pattern formed of a sealant before the sealant is cured." None of the cited references including Yoshizoe, singly

or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2-14, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

Moreover, the rejection of claims 16-20 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 16-23 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, “wherein the liquid crystal is uniformly filled between the first and second substrates and the liquid crystal substantially does not come into contact with the sealant before curing.” None of the cited references including Yoshizoe, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 21 and claims 16-20 and 22-23, which depend from claim 21, are allowable over the cited references.

In addition, Applicants submit that new claim 24 is allowable over the cited references. in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, “wherein the liquid crystal substantially is not contaminated by the sealant.” None of the cited references including Yoshizoe, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 24 is allowable over the cited references.


Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: November 16, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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